

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TOKYO 08710 300933Z

16

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----- 122660

P R 300909Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1242

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 8710

EXDIS

VIENTIANE MINIMIZE CONSIDERED

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS, PFOR, PDIP, LA, US

SUBJECT: LAO-US RELATIONS: JAPAN AS PROTECTING POWER

REF: VIENTIANE 4527

DEPT PASS CINCPAC FOR POLAD

1. WE ARE UNAWARE OF JAPAN'S HAVING SERVED AS PROTECTING
POWER FOR ANY NATION IN PAST BUT ARE CHECKING FURTHER.

2. US AND JAPAN'S INTERESTS ARE COMPLEMENTARY IN LAOS.
SERVING AS PROTECTOR OF US INTERESTS WOULD BOLSTER US-JAPAN
TIES IN INDOCHINA. NEVERTHELESS, JAPANESE MIGHT BE RELUCTANT
TO IDENTIFY THEMSELVES SO EXPLICITLY WITH US INTERESTS IN
VIENTIANE AT TIME WHEN THEY TRYING TO ESTABLISH RELATIONS
WITH BOTH HANOI AND SAIGON.

3. WE RECOMMEND THAT THE JAPANESE BE SOUNDED OUT ON THE
ISSUE, RELUCTANT OR NOT. THOUGH COULD CONCEIVABLY
REPLY THAT JAPAN WILL BE OF GREATER HELP TO US AS DIPLOMATIC
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CONTACT IN BOTH VIETNAMS THAN AS PROTECTOR OF OUR INTERESTS

IN VIENTIANE WE BELIEVE THAT CHOICES ARE NOT MUTUALLY
EXCLUSIVE AND THAT GOJ COULD PROBABLY DO BOTH.
HODGSON

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED CINCPAC FOR POLAD.

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NNN

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Disposition Authority: RowellE0
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